

Laying of roads and development of watersheds in villages

*149. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether schemes relating to laying of roads and development of watersheds in villages are decided by Union Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not consulting the State Governments to accord priority in their development?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) and (b) The Rural Roads projects under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana are formulated by the State Governments, keeping in view the Guidelines issued under the Programme. The projects are executed by the State authorities, after clearance of the same in the Government of India.

Projects relating to Watersheds are covered under three Programmes viz. the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP). Under the IWDP, the projects are sanctioned by the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, after their prioritization in consultation with the concerned State Governments. As regards the DPAP and the DDP, the Government of India decide the number of new projects to be sanctioned to a Programme District, keeping in view the Annual Budget Allocation as well as the performance of the District in the execution of ongoing Watershed Projects. The exact location of the projects is determined by the concerned DRDAs/Zilla Panchayats, in consultation with the State Governments.

Blaming of BSF for intrusion into Bangladesh Territory

*150. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bangladesh has squarely blamed the BSF for intruding into Bangladesh Territory and for the recent border incident leading to the death of BSF personnel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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(c) whether any inquiry, into the charges made by Bangladesh has been made by Government; and

(d) if so, what is the factual position and reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir. Rather, it is the other way round. Bangladesh Government has informed that a full investigation would be carried out into the incident of killing of BSF Jawans by Bangladesh Rifles.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Foreigners (Report to Police) Order, 1971

*151. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revived the Foreigners (Report to Police) Order, 1971;

(b) if so, whether there are differences with the Ministry of External Affairs on the revival of the order; and

(c) if so, the nature of the differences stating the implications involved in the implementation of the order, particularly in the case of the foreigners visiting the country from all over the world to participate in seminars etc. organised by Government and private organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) The Foreigners (Report to Police) Order, 1971 has been in operation since 14th December, 1971. For its better enforcement, a need was felt to reiterate it. Accordingly, attention of the public was drawn to the provisions of the said Order, through press releases, in the month of May 2001. The public criticism provoked by such reiteration of the Order led to its review and a decision by the Government to revise it. The revised Order which should be issued shortly, shall cast a duty on every person to notify the nearest police station, within 24 hours, about the presence of a foreigner in his premises if he has reason to